Message Text

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PAGE 01 HALIFA 00168 281500Z ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DLOS-09 INT-05 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 /069 W

-----281929Z 029408 /43

R 281400Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1609
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
ALL OTHER CONSULATES IN CANADA (BY POUCH)

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0168

E O 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIS SWEL CA

SUBJECT: THE NOVA SCOTIA SWORDFISHERY: PRESS REPORT

- 1. HALIFAX "CHRONICLE-HERALD" (4/28/77) LEAD ARTICLE REPORTS ON EFFORTS BEING MADE BY PROVINCIAL FISHERY OFFICIALS TO HAVE SWORDFISHERY REOPENED. ACCORDING TO NS MINISTER OF FISHERIES DAN REID (WHO IS, INCIDENTALLY, A DOCTOR OF MEDICINE), PROVINCE HAS ALREADY PERSUADED FEDERAL DEPT OF FISHERIES TO SUPPORT MARKETING OF SWORDFISH IN PACKAGES WITH WARNING THAT CONTINUOUS AND HEAVY CONSUMPTION COULD BE HARMFUL TO HEALTH. NEXT TARGET FOR PROVINCIAL PERSUASION WILL BE FEDERAL FOOD AND DRUG DEPARTMENT.
- 2. PROVINCIAL GOVT EFFORTS TO REOPEN SWORDFISHERY ARE BEING SUPPORTED BY MP LLOYD CROUSE (PC--SOUTH SHORT) WHO STATES MERCURY POISONING DANGER FROM SWORDFISH IS MUCH EXAGGERATED AND THAT US AND CANADIAN BAN ON CONSUMPTION "BORDERS ON THE RIDICULOUS".
- 3. PROVINCIAL DEPUTY FISHERIES MINISTER JOHN UNCLASSIFIED

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MULLALLY ADDED THAT NS FISHERMEN ARE IRKED BY PRESENCE OF US FISHERMEN FISHING FOR SWORDFISH OFF COAST OF CANADA. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION HAD BANNED SWORDFISH MARKETING, INDIVIDUAL STATES HAD A MEASURE OF AUTONOMY IN HEALTH REGULATIONS AND THAT CERTAIN STATES (MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS WERE MENTIONED IN

ARTICLE) WERE APPARENTLY LANDING AND MARKETING SWORDFISH WITHOUT FDA INTERFERENCE.

4. POUCHING COPIES OF ARTICLE TO EMBASSY OTTAWA, EUR/CAN, AND OES/OFA/FA. ALSO ENROUTE TO SAME ADDRESSEES IS INFORMAL MEMCON PREPARED YESTERDAY (4/27) BY CONOFF REPORTING ON 4/22 CONTACTS WITH MP LLOYD CROUSE AND OFFICE OF AMB RICHARDSON ON SUBJECT OF SWORDFISHERY.

MOORE

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Message Attributes

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Subject: THE NOVA SCOTIA SWORDFISHERY: PRESS REPORT

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